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Atty. Docket: 7962801/0503762

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

<b>Applicant:</b>	Adam G. Malofsky et. al.		
<b>Serial No.:</b>	09/840,859	<b>Group Art Unit:</b>	1771
<b>Filed:</b>	April 24, 2001	<b>Examiner:</b>	Zirker, Daniel R.
<b>For:</b>	FASTENING DEVICE		

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Box Non-Fee Amendment  
Washington, DC 20231

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Dear Sir:

In Response to the Office Action dated October 18, 2002 and relating to the above-identified pending patent application, please enter the following amendment and consider the following remarks.

Please amend the application as follows:

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 68-112, without prejudice.

Remarks

Claims 1-67 are pending in the application, claims 68-112 having been withdrawn from consideration as being directed to a non-elected invention. By the foregoing amendment, Applicants have cancelled claims 68-112. However, Applicants reserve the right to timely file a divisional patent application to such cancelled claims.

Indefiniteness

In paragraph 2 of the Office Action, claims 60-66 have been rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. It is alleged that these claims are defacto duplicates of claims 1-7. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection and request reconsideration.